

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-23 (Cancelled)

24. (Previously presented) A system for building a custom software configuration, comprising:

an order entry system for receiving a plurality of requests for desired software configurations;

an image builder for identifying at least one baseline configuration corresponding to the desired software configurations, comparing the at least one baseline configuration with the desired software configurations, and creating a set of changes based on the comparison wherein the set of changes are suitable for combining with the baseline configuration to generate the desired software configuration, and

an image server for storing the at least one baseline configuration and set of changes on a removable medium, the removable medium suitable for loading a plurality of desired software configurations corresponding to the requested plurality of desired software configurations.

25. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 24, wherein the plurality of requests for desired software configurations correspond to at least one of a first software component, a second software component, a first hardware component and a second hardware component, wherein at least one of the first hardware component is different from the second hardware component and the first software component is different from the second software component.

26. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 24, wherein the

removable medium includes at least one of a compact disk read-only-memory (CD-ROM), digital versatile disc (DVD), PC Card for utilization in a PC slot, floppy disk, floppy/optical disk for use in a floppy/optical drive, zip disk for use in a zip drive, and tape for use in a tape drive.

27. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 24, wherein at least one of the baseline configuration and set of changes are identified through the use of a configuration ID.

28. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 24, wherein the plurality of requests are grouped.

29. (Previously presented) A system for building a custom software configuration, comprising:

an order entry system for receiving a first request for a first desired software configuration and a second request for a second desired software configuration, the first desired software configuration being different than the second desired software configuration;

an image builder for identifying at least one software configuration corresponding to at least one of the first desired software configuration and the second desired software configuration, wherein the at least one software configuration is suitable for generating the first desired software configuration and the second desired software configuration, and

an image server for storing the software configuration on a removable medium, the removable medium suitable for loading the first desired software configuration and the second desired software configuration.

30. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the first request for a first desired software configuration includes least one of a first software component and a first hardware component and the second request for a second desired

software configuration includes at least one of a second software component and a second hardware component, wherein at least one of the first hardware component is different from the second hardware component and the first software component is different from the second software component.

31. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the removable medium includes at least one of a compact disk read-only-memory (CD-ROM), digital versatile disc (DVD), PC Card for utilization in a PC slot, floppy disk, floppy/optical disk for use in a floppy/optical drive, zip disk for use in a zip drive, and tape for use in a tape drive.

32. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the software configuration is identified through the use of a configuration ID.

33. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 29, further comprising a third request for a third desired information handling system, and when the first desired information handling system is more similar to the second desired information handling system than the third desired information handling system, the first information handling system and the second information handling system are grouped.

34. (Previously presented) A system for building a custom software configuration, comprising:

an order entry system receiving a first request for a first desired software configuration and a second request for a second desired software configuration, the first desired software configuration being different than the second desired software configuration;

an image builder for identifying at least one baseline configuration corresponding to at least one of the first desired software configuration and the second desired software configuration; comparing the at least one baseline configuration with the first desired software configuration and the second desired software configuration; and

creating a set of changes based on the comparison wherein the set of changes are suitable for combining with the at least one baseline configuration to generate the first desired software configuration and the second desired software configuration, and

an image server for storing the at least one baseline configuration and set of changes on a removable medium, the removable medium suitable for loading the first desired software configuration and the second desired software configuration.

35. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 34, wherein the first desired software configuration is loaded on a first information handling system and the second desired software configuration is loaded on a second information handling system..

36. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 34, wherein the removable medium includes at least one of a compact disk read-only-memory (CD-ROM), digital versatile disc (DVD), PC Card for utilization in a PC slot, floppy disk, floppy/optical disk for use in a floppy/optical drive, zip disk for use in a zip drive, and tape for use in a tape drive.

37. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 34, wherein the baseline configuration is identified through the use of a configuration ID.

38. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 34, further comprising a third request for a third desired software configuration, and when the first software configuration is more similar to the second software configuration than the third software configuration, the first software configuration and the second software configuration are grouped.

39. (Previously presented) A system for building a custom software configuration, comprising:

means for receiving a first customer order for a first information handling system and a

second customer order for a second information handling system, the first customer order including a first list of hardware configuration components and a first list of software configuration components and the second customer order including second list of hardware configuration components and a second list of software configuration components, wherein at least one of the first list of hardware configuration components is different from the second list of hardware configuration components and the first list of software configuration components is different from the second list of software configuration components; and means for storing at least one software configuration on a removable medium, the at least one software configuration suitable for loading at least one of the first list of software configuration components and the second list of software configuration components onto at least one of the first information handling system and the second information handling system.

40. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 39, wherein the removable medium includes at least one of a compact disk read-only-memory (CD-ROM), digital versatile disc (DVD), PC Card for utilization in a PC slot, floppy disk, floppy/optical disk for use in a floppy/optical drive, zip disk for use in a zip drive, and tape for use in a tape drive.

41. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 39, wherein the software configuration is identified through the use of a configuration ID.

42. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 39, further comprising a third request for a third information handling system, and when the first information handling system is more similar to the second information handling system than the third information handling system, the first information handling system and the second information handling system are grouped.

43. (Currently amended) A removable medium readable by an information

handling system, comprising:

a first software configuration for loading on ~~the~~ a first information handling system, the first software configuration corresponding to a first customer order for the first information handling system, the first customer order including a first list of hardware configuration components and a first list of software configuration components; and

a second software configuration for loading on ~~the~~ a second information handling system, the second software configuration corresponding to a second customer order for the second information handling system, the second customer order including a second list of hardware configuration components and a second list of software configuration components,

wherein the first software configuration allows configuration of the first information handling system when loaded from the removable medium to the first information handling system and the second software configuration allows configuration of the second information handling system when loaded from the removable medium to the second information handling system, at least one of the first list of hardware configuration components being different from the second list of hardware configuration components and the first list of software configuration components being different from the second list of software configuration components so that the first software configuration is unsuitable for loading software configuration components on the second information handling system.

44. (Previously presented) The removable medium as described in claim 43, wherein at least one of the first software configuration and the second software configuration includes at least one of BIOS settings, CMOS, operating system, drivers, utilities, application software, vendor software, and user-selected software.

45. (Previously presented) The removable medium as described in claim 43, wherein the removable medium is suitable for restoring system settings to an information

handling system.

46. (Previously presented) The removable medium as described in claim 43, wherein the removable medium includes at least one of a compact disk read-only-memory (CD-ROM), digital versatile disc (DVD), PC Card for utilization in a PC slot, floppy disk, floppy/optical disk for use in a floppy/optical drive, zip disk for use in a zip drive, and tape for use in a tape drive.